



News Release

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American Cancer Society's Relay For Life Celebrates Survivorship and the Hope of Conquering Cancer *Survivor Reception Sponsored by Haverhill Office of Commonwealth Hematology-Oncology*

(Haverhill, MA) – The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life of Haverhill celebrates the lives of many local residents who have survived cancer, while offering the hope of finding a cure. To honor the strength and courage of cancer survivors, all survivors from Haverhill and surrounding communities are invited to unite in a “Victory Lap” on Friday, June 15, at 6:15 p.m., at the Relay For Life of Haverhill. Immediately following the Victory Lap, all survivors and their caregivers are encouraged and invited to attend a reception in their honor sponsored by the Haverhill Office of Commonwealth Hematology-Oncology.

“The event will begin with a survivor lap in which dozens of cancer survivors will take a victory lap around the track. The involvement of local cancer survivors is proof of the progress that has been made in improving cancer survival rates and the quality of life following cancer treatment,” said Anna Floreen, Community Executive for Development, American Cancer Society.

The Relay For Life of Haverhill will be held at Northern Essex Community College, 100 Elliott Street in Haverhill, from 3:00 p.m. Friday, June 15, until 3:00 p.m. Saturday, June 16.

Community Oncologist, Dr. Paul Spieler of Commonwealth Hematology-Oncology, who has been selected as the Honorary Survivor Chair of the event, will be addressing Relay participants.

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Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's largest signature activity as well as the most successful national fundraiser. It is a unique event that offers communities an opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer. Relays are 12 to 24 hours in length and go overnight. Teams of 8 to 15 people camp out at a local high school, park, or fairground and take turns walking, jogging, or running around a track or path. Teams are encouraged to camp out in tents and enjoy the great music, food and camaraderie of the event.

For more information about the Relay For Life of Haverhill or to register for the survivor reception, please call Anna Floreen at your local American Cancer Society at (781) 314-2686 or email at anna.floreen@cancer.org.

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy, and service. For information on how to become involved, Contact 1.800.ACS.2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

Commonwealth Hematology-Oncology, based in Quincy, Mass., is the largest private, community-based cancer care network in New England, with offices and hospital affiliations throughout Massachusetts. Known for its leadership in community-based cancer care, CHO was the state's first group practice to develop treatment guidelines for specific cancers, the first to develop a computerized software program for chemotherapy ordering, and the first to provide a Patient Advocacy Program. For more information, visit www.chomed.com.

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